

# Philadelphia Baseball Association Is Responsible for the Reforms Among Semi-Pro Clubs

## P. B. A. CORRECTS EVILS OF SEMI-PRO TOSSEES

Organization of Baseball Teams Is Outstanding Feature of Year in Independent Ranks

### MAKES NEW RULES

**By BILL DALLAS**  
A REVIEW of the 1922 season in independent baseball circles means a synopsis of the founding and accomplishments of the Philadelphia Baseball Association. This organization is not the entire works in semi-professional ball in this locality, as there are numerous clubs and small leagues not affiliated, but the big first-class teams, as a whole, are members.

And that in a nutshell was the big accomplishment of organized independent baseball in Philadelphia on a large degree. Those in authority have learned almost to a "T" the faults of the semi-pros and will try to correct them for differently this year.

Any team that simply says, "We have a great club that rates with the best," will not be admitted. The new slogan of the P. B. A. is "We're from Missouri," and newcomers will be required to post a substantial cash bond, which means that any shortcomings will be taken care of in a proper manner and the season will not find that each member of an organized baseball with a string of debts little long.

**Donovan Chosen Head**  
The Philadelphia Baseball Association comes into official existence on February 10 when Howard M. Donovan was chosen president. He proved a live wire and made the thing go from the getaway, but just a few days before the season was to open April 25, he died. Mr. Donovan was laid low with acute appendicitis. After a hard fight, he recovered, but on account of his physician was instructed to devote all outside interests and only permitted two hours a day at business.

The association refused at first to accept his resignation, but finally on June 23, succeeded in securing Mr. Donovan's successor, George C. McEvane, who has been responsible for the success of the organization, and today by the rapid strides he made from the start the Philadelphia Baseball Association will be the best of its kind in America next year.

During the illness of the president the association saw many stormy days and it looked for a time as if the ship would sink, but the men at the helm who were in charge of the most responsible teams stuck to the oars and brought her safely through. In particular, Frank Coffey, president of the North Phillips, who did not remain. Only a member of the Board of Governors, he jumped into the breach and performed the task of president in a manner that did himself credit.

**"Cart" Gets Busy**  
The new president showed his hand when, after viewing the situation for a few days, he decided, on June 27, that thirty-five of the seventy-three clubs were far worth retaining as they failed to fulfill the obligations required of them. He did not hesitate to do his duty and was a master stroke, as most of the bidders and quidnuncs of early days were caged by teams that had no respect for rule or regulation.

Many lessons have been learned in 1922. Some of the new rules will be put into effect at the start of the year. The majority have decided that to play semi-professional ball in Philadelphia there must be salary limits.

This may come as a shock to the older clubs, but the new teams that will say it is impossible, pointing out that such rules are never lived up to, but it will come just the same. After months of arduous investigating it was learned from the heads of several of the minor leagues that the new rules, in their entirety, for the first time, those received in organized minor league baseball, in most instances, the average being about double.

**Huge Regular Schedule**

The regular schedule rules as the basis of the season fail to prove as satisfactory as expected, and it has been decided that in 1923 a regular schedule of games will be played. The teams in the organization might be a surprise, as only those who are in a position to get a very large cash bond will be admitted. This is found absolutely necessary for the protection of the clubs.

A regular schedule of games will be played starting possibly on June 1. Last year the contracts of players dated from May 1, but this has been found to be impractical, and in 1923 June 1 will be the official start of the season, games will be played during May and part of April, but the players will be on game-time basis. So many game agreements were piled up in May that all the clubs were way in the ditch financially, at the getaway and never recovered.

It has not been determined how many games will be played in regular competition, but with eight or ten clubs in the league, a total of about four may be able to make a possible of fifty-six games with eight teams and twenty-two with ten teams. Then at the close of the season there will not be much difficulty in determining the best club in the city. This refers to the white stalks, as the championship during the semi-pros now seems to be decided by the colored clubs, and the colored clubs will be determined by the colored clubs, as the colored clubs will be divided by the new colored League in the East. The season, by the way, will be divided into two halves.

**The Umpire Question**  
An organized baseball among the semi-pros did one thing it put an end to the "honest" evil among the umpires. The game caused an end of trouble in the early days of 1922. It had been decided the would be appointed by an umpire, but before the season opened the officials organized and demanded such outrageous salaries that it was decided by the association to secure its own men.

The difficulty was finally settled, but it was well in the middle of the season, when no agreement was reached. In former days any team away from home figured on playing ten or eleven men, but the year the try was never heard of "honest" men. Every team secured a square deal with the manager, the cost of the game was under no obligation to any one club and no one knew the identity of the men who would officiate until they stepped on the field of play.

One team, Native Catholic, tried to adhere to this arrangement and was suspended. They wanted the privilege of naming their own men. The

### Baseball Leaders



#### Nine Contests Listed For State's Grid Team

State College, Pa., Dec. 29.—The Penn State football schedule for 1923 follows:

- October 29, Lebanon Valley, at home.
- October 6, North Carolina State, at home.
- October 13, Gettysburg, at home.
- October 20, Navy, at home.
- October 27, West Virginia, at New York.
- November 3, Syracuse, at Syracuse.
- November 10, Georgia Tech, at home.
- November 17, Penn, at Philadelphia.
- November 20 (Thanksgiving Day), Pitt, at Pittsburgh.

upowners, from all accounts, have seen the evidence of their folly and it would not be surprising to see them a member of the P. B. A. next year.

#### Others Back

The churchmen have one of the best clubs and are really the originators of twelfth-century baseball. Their followers were denied the privilege of witnessing the really big games, but they did hear and possibly the whole thing was a mistake, as those in control of the Nationality club are just as good sportsmen as those connected with any team and want every one to get a square deal.

The dumping of players from one team to another was also another evil that was eradicated. When a player signed with a team he stayed with the until released and the majority of the players were intact from the getaway.

As far as the umpires are concerned, it has been found a good scheme to sign the men on monthly contracts, the same as in the big leagues, and they are rotated in the same manner. For instance, Lehigh plays at home on Tuesdays. The umpires are Saturdays, Bontzel and Coffey will be on there for the entire week, and then will shift elsewhere the following week.

The others affiliated with the Philadelphia Baseball Association will be less than half in number in 1923 but all the big teams in the city will be in line, and this includes three or four from last year. It is hoped that the new ones will be as good as the old ones. The brass band of the North Phillips, will not be admitted. Only a member of the Board of Governors, he jumped into the breach and performed the task of president in a manner that did himself credit.

The association refused at first to accept his resignation, but finally on June 23, succeeded in securing Mr. McEvane, who has been responsible for the success of the organization, and today by the rapid strides he made from the start the Philadelphia Baseball Association will be the best of its kind in America next year.

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**Saturday's List of Soccer Games**

#### AMERICAN LEAGUE

Bethpage vs. Brooklyn, Sat., Nov. 1, at 2 p.m.; Bronx vs. Fall River, 1 p.m., at 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Brooklyn, 1 p.m., at 2 p.m.; Worcester vs. Boston, 1 p.m., at 2 p.m.

#### CRICKET LEAGUE

First Division: Newark vs. Morris, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Morristown, 2 p.m.; Paterson vs. White Plains, 2 p.m.; White Plains vs. Bronx, 2 p.m.

#### CRICKET LEAGUE

Second Division: Newark vs. Morristown, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Paterson, 2 p.m.

#### ALLIED LEAGUE

First Division—Section A: Newark vs. Rutherford, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. West Orange, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.

#### Second Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Third Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Fourth Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Fifth Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Sixth Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Seventh Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Eighth Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Ninth Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Tenth Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Eleventh Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Twelfth Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Thirteenth Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Fourteenth Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Fifteenth Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Sixteenth Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Seventeenth Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Eighteenth Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Nineteenth Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Twenty-first Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Twenty-second Division

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#### Twenty-third Division

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#### Twenty-fourth Division

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#### Twenty-fifth Division

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#### Twenty-sixth Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Twenty-seventh Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Twenty-eighth Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Twenty-ninth Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Thirtieth Division

Newark vs. Elizabeth, 2 p.m.; Newark vs. Union, 2 p.m.

#### Thirty-first Division

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#### Thirty-second Division

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#### Thirty-ninth Division

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#### Fortieth Division

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#### Forty-first Division

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#### Forty-second Division

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#### Forty-third Division

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